That which is claimed is:

1.   A method, comprising:

receiving an input signal associated with a reminder event; and

outputting a control signal to an actuator, the control signal configured to cause the
actuator to output a haptic effect associated with the reminder event.

2.   The method of claim 1 wherein the reminder event includes one of an appointment, a
meeting, and a pre-scheduled activity.

3.   The method of claim 1 further comprising determining a source of the reminder event
and selecting the control signal based at least in part on the determination.

4.   The method of claim 1 wherein the haptic effect is output to a handheld
communication device.

5.   A method, comprising:

receiving an input signal associated with a status event; and

outputting a control signal to an actuator at a prescribed time after receiving the input
signal, the control signal configured to cause the actuator to output a haptic effect associated
with the status event.

6.   The method of claim 5 wherein the status event includes one of an advertisement
event, a business-transaction event, a one-to-one marketing event, a stock-trading event, a
weather-forecast event, an entertainment event, a sports event, and an emergency event.

7.   The method of claim 5 further comprising determining a source of the status event
and selecting the control signal based at least in part on the determination.

8.   The method of claim 5 further comprising extracting a haptic code from the input
signal, the control signal being based at least in part on the haptic code.

9.   The method of claim 5 wherein the haptic effect is output to a handheld
communication device.

10.   A computer-readable medium on which is encoded program code, comprising:

program code for receiving an input signal associated with a reminder event; and

program code for outputting a control signal to an actuator, the control signal
configured to cause the actuator to output a haptic effect associated with the reminder event.

11.   The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the reminder event includes one
of an appointment, a meeting, and a pre-scheduled activity.

12.   The computer-readable medium of claim 10 further comprising program code for
determining a source of the reminder event and selecting the control signal based at least in
part on the determination.

13. The computer-readable medium of claim 12 further comprising program code to generate a plurality of control signals, each control signal being associated with a haptic effect.

14. A computer-readable medium on which is encoded program code, comprising:

program code for receiving an input signal associated with a status event; and

program code for outputting a control signal to an actuator at a prescribed time after receiving the input signal, the control signal configured to cause the actuator to output a haptic effect associated with the status event.

15. The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein the status event includes one of an advertisement event, a business-transaction event, a one-to-one marketing event, a stock-trading event, a weather-forecast event, an entertainment event, a sports event, and an emergency event.

16. The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising program code for determining a source of the status event and selecting the control signal based at least in part on the determination.

17. The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising program code for extracting a haptic code from the input signal, the control signal being based at least in part on the haptic code.

18. A data stream embodied in a carrier signal, carrying instructions to

receive an input signal associated with a reminder event; and

output a control signal to an actuator, the control signal configured to cause the actuator to output a haptic effect associated with the reminder event.

19. A data stream embodied in a carrier signal, carrying instructions to

receive an input signal associated with a status event; and

output a control signal to an actuator at a prescribed time after receiving the input signal, the control signal configured to cause the actuator to output a haptic effect associated with the status event.

20. An apparatus, comprising:

a body;

a processor;

an actuator coupled to the body and in communication with the processor; and

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory storing program code executable by the processor, including:

program code for receiving an input signal associated with a reminder event; and

program code for outputting a control signal to an actuator, the control signal configured to cause the actuator to output a haptic effect associated with the reminder event.

21.   The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the body is included in a handheld communication device.

22.   The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the handheld communication device includes one of a cellular phone, a satellite phone, a cordless phone, a personal digital assistant, a pager, a two-way radio, a portable computer, a game console controller, a personal gaming device, and an MP3 player.

23.   The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the reminder event includes one of an appointment, a meeting, and a pre-scheduled activity.

24.   The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the memory further stores program code for determining a source of the reminder event and selecting the control signal based at least in part on the determination.

25.   The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the memory further stores a haptic lookup table, the selection being based on the haptic lookup table.

26.   The apparatus, comprising:

a body;

a processor;

an actuator coupled to the body and in communication with the processor; and

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory storing program code executable by the processor, including:

program code for receiving an input signal associated with a status event; and

program code for output a control signal to an actuator at a prescribed time after receiving the input signal, the control signal configured to cause the actuator to output a haptic effect associated with the status event.

27.   The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the body is included in a handheld communication device.

28.   The apparatus of claim 27 wherein the handheld communication device includes one of a cellular phone, a satellite phone, a cordless phone, a personal digital assistant, a pager, a two-way radio, a portable computer, a game console controller, a personal gaming device, and an MP3 player.

29.   The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the status event includes one of an advertisement event, a business-transaction event, a one-to-one marketing event, a stock-trading event, a weather-forecast event, an entertainment event, a sports event, and an emergency event.

30.   The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the memory further stores program code for determining a source of the status event and selecting the control signal based at least in part on the determination.